
OLR Bill Analysis

sSB 315

AN ACT CONCERNING FARMERS' MARKET WINE SALES PERMITS.

SUMMARY:

This bill (1) allows the holder of a farmers' market wine sales permit to offer wine tastings at farmers' markets and (2) removes restrictions on the number of farmers' markets where a permittee may sell wine. Under current law, if invited, permittees may make an unlimited number of appearances at three farmers' market locations per year to sell wine by the bottle. The bill removes the three-locations-per-year limit. By law and unchanged by the bill, the permittee or an authorized representative must be present at the farmers' markets during wine sales.

The bill does not define the term "wine tasting" or specify a serving size for tastings. Current law regarding a manufacturing permit for a farm winery, which is required for the farmers' market wine sales permit, allows for tastings on the winery premises but likewise does not specify a serving size (see BACKGROUND).

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

BACKGROUND

Manufacturing Permit for a Farm Winery

The farmers' market wine sales permit is issued by the Consumer Protection commissioner to a holder of a manufacturer permit for a farm winery. Applicants for the farmers' market wine sales permit must be in compliance with the requirements of their manufacturer permit. This manufacturer permit is issued only to wineries located on farms, and allows holders, among other things, to produce and sell wine, and offer tastings on the winery premises.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Environment Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 28 Nay 0 (03/17/2014)